(b) whether it is a fact that the balance of payments in 1985-86 is around twice that of 1984-85 and it is likely to increase in 1986;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) detailed reasons for Government's inability to check this advance trend in balance of payments; and

(e) whether Government has taken any steps to reduce the deficit in balance of payments in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) and (b) The trade deficit of the country in 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87 is Rs. 6721.1 Rs. 9586.0 and Rs. 7512.5 crores (provisional) respectively. (The trade deficit figures for 1984-85 and 1985-86 are based on the Balance of Payment Statistics published by Reserve Bank of India. Balance of Payment Data for 1986-87 is under compilation. The figure given for 1986-87 is based on DGCIS provisional data).

(c) to (e) The adverse trend in the current account during 1985-86 arose mainly on account of a sharp increase in the trade deficit and a decline in the net invisibles, primarily due to fall in private transfer receipts.

A number of corrective measures have been undertaken to boost the growth of exports and curb the increase in imports. A wide range of export promotion measures have been initiated. As a result, the provisional figures of exports in im-1986-87 show a marked increase of 20.4 per cent over 1985-86. On the import side, the focus has been on measures to encourage indigenous production of key-bulk items, such as sugar, fertilizers, etc.

Shri Win Chadha leaving the country without permission

3864. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Shri Win Chadha, the Bofors agent in India, left the country soon after the Enforcement Directorate raided his office and residence in New Delhi in the FERA violation cases; and

(b) if so, how Shri Win Chadha managed to leave the country in spite of summons issued by the Enforcement Directorate asking him to appear before it to record his statements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) and (b) Shri W. N. Chadha had left India sometimes in May, 1987 before the Directorate of Enforcement (FERA) searched his office and residential premises on 5.6.87. Based on the scrutiny of the documents seized during the searches, summons were issued directing him to appear in the Office of the Directorate of Enforcement.

Contraband seized at Indira Gandhi International Airport

3865. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that contraband goods worth of Rs. 40 lakhs were seized by the Customs authority at the Indira Gandhi International Airport in July, 1987;

(b) if so, what are the details of the goods seized and who are the persons involved in it; and

(c) what action Government have taken against the person concerned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) to (c) The Hon'ble Member is presumably referring to the seizure of gold worth Rs. 43.71 lakhs at Delhi Airport on 26.7.1987. The details of the case are given below:—

On 26th July, 1987, in pursuance of an information, Shri Bhupendra Amarat Lal Mehta an Indian passport holder,